GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3108
ANSWERED ON:22.03.2002
SCHEMES FOR SCS/STS
RAMJI LAL SUMAN

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

the Government sponsored schemes/programmes being implemented by his Ministry to promote with special care the economic interests of the SCs and STs in employment generation and for their economic empowerment?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR)

The schemes and programmes of the Ministry of Textiles meant for the development including employment generation and income augmentation of handlooms weavers, craftspersons, wool growers and silk farmers have a sizeable number of beneficiaries who belong to weaker sections of society including women, SCs and STs.

Schemes in handicrafts sector including training for skill upgradation, marketing; exhibition & publicity; marketing development support; setting up of common facility centers/craft development centers; design upgradation; setting up of worksheds and worksheds-cum-housing schemes etc. take care of the interests of SCs and STs also who constitute nearly 37% of the total artisans population in the country. Recently a new scheme viz. Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana has been launched which aims at sustainable development of handicrafts clusters in the country including those having a sizable population of SCs and STs thorough the social and economic empowerment of the beneficiaries.

Similarly in handloom sector, schemes such as development of exportable products and their marketing; workshed-cum-housing; group insurance; thrift fund scheme; health package scheme; publicity & exhibitions; and research & development projects cover large number of SCs and STs beneficiaries. In the Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana introduced in 2000-2001 the ratio of Central State Government grants is 75:25 (as against 50:50 in other cases) if the implementing agency has 100% beneficiary members belonging to SC/STs, women or minority categories.

Programmes for development of wool and woolens in the country being mainly the Integrated Sheep and Wool Development Projects & the Angora Wool Development Project administered by the Central Wool Development Board also cover sheep rearing and farmer population belonging mainly to the weaker sections of society including SCs and STs and living in the remote arid, semi arid and hilly regions of the country.

Similarly, a considerable percentage of SCs, STs and women categories are covered under the centrally sponsored Catalytic Development Schemes being administered by the Central Silk Board which benefits small and marginal farmers & household or tiny enterprises who are economically weak. The schemes for development of eri, muga and tasar silk and for technology improvement in reeling & spinning of these silks are almost exclusively directed at tribal population.